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The Cutting of Pit Props

Fishermen and Others Engaged in the Pit Prop Industry Would do Well to Read Carefully the following.

Northern Arm, Botwood, Oct. 18, 1916.

W. F. Coaker, (M.H.A.)

Dear Sir:—As the pit prop contractors are offering only \$4.50 for rined wood and all to be cut six feet six inches long, and only from 2 1/2 inches to five inches in diameter. Now sir no person can make a living wage cutting pit props and rining them at that figure. I understand the Government granted \$6.00 per cord rined, 128 cubic feet a constituted cord. Have the Government altered this price since last session? As Chairman of the Council the members are looking to me to find out from you if that is the best figure, \$4.50. Let me know if \$6.00 per cord still stands good, as the men want to know before they start cutting.

Yours truly,
JACOB EVANS.

[The Act passed last year provide for \$4.50 for unrined pit props and \$6.00 for rined, but no wood can be cut on three-mile limit unless burnt wood. Wages per month for pit props work is \$30. We append the act. We draw the attention of Hon. S. D. Blandford to Mr. Evans' statement and ask him to investigate without delay. We ask the fishermen to cut out the subjoined act and keep for reference.—Editor.]

An Act to Amend the Law Respecting the Exportation of Timber, Passed May 4th, 1916.

Be it enacted by the Governor, the Legislative Council and House of Assembly, in Legislative Session convened, as follows:—

1. Section four of the Act 5 George V., cap 7, entitled "An Act respecting the Exportation of Timber," as amended by section two of the Act 6 George V., cap. 14, is hereby repealed, and the following is substituted therefor:—

(4) Anything in any Act contained to the contrary notwithstanding, it shall be lawful for any person to export, on the usual export entry, to any place in the United Kingdom or in the Republic of France, any timber or lumber for pit props cut before the 31st day of December, 1917, or before the expiration of six months from the date on which His Majesty shall cause a Proclamation or Proclamations to issue, declaring that a state of war no longer exists between His Majesty and the countries which hostilities are at present pending, whichever period shall be shorter: Provided, that such person shall satisfy the Customs' Officer to whom he makes application for export entry, that such timber or lumber was not cut on any part of that territory or area known as the three mile limit, nor on any territory or area upon which the cutting of timber for such purposes shall under the provisions of any Act have been prohibited by the Governor in Council, or, if such timber or lumber was cut on the said area known as the three mile limit, that such timber or lumber was burnt timber when cut.

2. Anything in this or any other Act to the contrary notwithstanding, it shall be lawful for any persons to export, on the usual export entry, to any place in the United Kingdom or in the Republic of France, any timber or lumber for pit props which shall, be lawful for any persons to export, on the usual export entry, to any place in the United Kingdom or in the Republic of France, any timber or lumber for pitprops which shall, prior to the fifteenth day of April of the present year, have been cut on the said area known as the three mile limit.

3. The Governor in Council shall after the passing of this Act appoint a Board consisting of five members, who shall serve without pay or reward, and shall meet at such times and places as they deem desirable, of whom a majority shall be a quorum. Such Board shall be known as the "Timber Exportation Board."

4. The duties of the said Board shall be to fix from time to time for different localities in this Colony a minimum price per cord to the cutter, which shall not be less than four dollars and fifty cents per cord for unrined wood on the bank at tidal water, below which price it shall be unlawful for any person to purchase any timber or lumber for pitprops intended to be exported from this Colony. Men employed on wages cutting pit-props shall be paid at a rate

of not less than thirty dollars per month with board and lodging: Provided that nothing herein contained shall apply to any timber or lumber for pit-props cut prior to the first day of May, 1916.

5. No Customs' Officer, after notice of the appointment of such Board and of the prices fixed by such Board as hereinbefore provided, shall accept any export entry for timber or lumber for pit-props without proof to his satisfaction that the price paid for such timber or lumber is not less than the minimum price fixed by such Board for the locality in which such timber or lumber was purchased.

Pte. Stares gets Loyal Welcome

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir:—On Friday, October 13th, Port Blandford was en fete. Bunting was displayed at various places throughout the settlement, the occasion being to celebrate the home-coming of our first returned hero from the front, Pte. Frank W. Stares.

In the afternoon the school children from both schools, carrying flags and laurels, and numbering about seventy-five, marched in procession to the residence of Pte. Stares, where he joined them and proceeded to the Orange Hall, where a tea was served. After tea the Rev. Hugh Facey addressed the audience, referring to our hero; and at the conclusion of his address Pte. Stares was presented with a nice Meerschaum Pipe from the ladies of the W.P.A.; also a collection given him which was made up by the people in the Hall. Pte. Stares responded, thanking the people and gave a speech telling as much as possible of his doings, and concluded by saying that if he is called on to go back to the front again he is quite willing to do so, and I am sure much credit is due him for his pluck.

Pte. Stares is one of the France veterans and was in the "Big Drive" of July the 1st, being lucky enough to escape with a wound in the ankle. I may also add that "our Frank" was the first male child born at Port Blandford, the first to enlist, and the first to return from the front.

Later in the evening games were indulged in, and the singing of the National Anthem and hearty cheers for our hero, brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.

Thanking you for space, Mr. Editor, I am,

Yours truly,
A Friend of the Soldiers.
Port Blandford, Oct. 14, '16.

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CARRIAGE BREECHENS.

NEYLE'S HARDWARE

Notes From Springdale

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir:—Please allow me space in your paper to record the death of one of the eldest members of our Council, Mr. William Hull, Sr., of Birchville, aged 60 years, who passed away to his last long home on Oct. 8th, at 6 p.m. The burial service was conducted by our pastor, Rev. Mr. Williams. Mrs. Hull was ill for thirteen weeks, his sickness being a heart trouble and he passed away from this life very happy. His past life goes to prove that he fell asleep in Jesus. He leaves behind him a wife, seven sons and two daughters. Our Council extends their heart felt sympathy to the bereaved. Mr. Hull was a faithful worker of the Church at Birchville, and a good old member of our Council, attended the meetings regular and was both a help to the Chairman and the members.

Another friend of our Council, Mr. George Gillard, had taken from him during the summer by the hand of death, his daughter Louie, aged 19 years, cut down in the prime of life by that dreadful disease—Consumption. She also died very happy, never murmuring or complaining, just meekly waiting for the time when God sees fit to take her. She was ill for about four months. Louie was a member of the Church Choir, an active member in the Epworth League and a scholar of the Sunday School. Our Council desire to express their sympathy to Friend Gillard and family in their sad bereavement.

Our Council was closed for the summer, has been open now for about a month and meetings are now held weekly.

Our honourable member, Mr. Jennings, paid us a visit a few days ago; he was with us to our meeting, gave us a very interesting address, speaking chiefly on the growth of the F.P.U. and what it has accomplished during the past three years, since he has been connected with the same.

We are expecting a visit from the President himself sometime in the near future, he has been within a few miles of us, but has never paid us a visit yet. We all know that we are living in a kind of an out of a way place, in the meantime we think we should have had a visit from the President by this time, or before. We also know that our President has his hands full of work, and his head also. The work that the President is undertaking to do and has done the past six years is marvellous.

Our Council says "Go ahead Mr. Coaker." Wishing the F.P.U. and the President every success.

SECRETARY,
Springdale Local Council,
Springdale, Oct. 14, '16.

Resolution of Condolence

Erne Lodge, No. 110, Pool's Island.
Resolution of condolence on behalf of our deceased Brother George Rodgers who passed peacefully away to the Great Beyond, Oct. 14th, at his residence, Pool's Island, being a prominent member of the L.O.A., Pool's Island.
WHEREAS it has seemed good to the Almighty disposer of events to remove from our midst our esteemed Brother, George Rodgers; and

WHEREAS the intimate relations long held by the deceased with the Brothers of this Order render it proper that we should place upon record our appreciation of his services as a Loyal Orangeman, and his merits as a man; therefore

RESOLVED, that we deplore the loss of Brother George Rodgers with deep feelings of regret, softened only by the confident hope that his spirit is with those who, having fought the good fight here, are enjoying perfect happiness in a better world.

RESOLVED, that we tender to his afflicted wife and relatives our sincere condolence, and our earnest sympathy in their affliction at the loss of one who was a good husband, a devoted Brother Orangeman, and an upright man.

RESOLVED, that a copy of the foregoing resolutions, signed by the Master, and certified by the Secretary, be transmitted to the wife of the deceased:
WILLIAM BARFOOT,
Master,
JOB WHITE,
Recording Secretary.

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What we got to offer you in the following:

Single Brl. B.L. Guns
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DO NOT FORGET that before you tell your customers that you cannot get what they want, that we have large supplies of everything pertaining to our line of business. We suggest that you always write or telephone us enquiring what we have in stock before admitting that it cannot be obtained.

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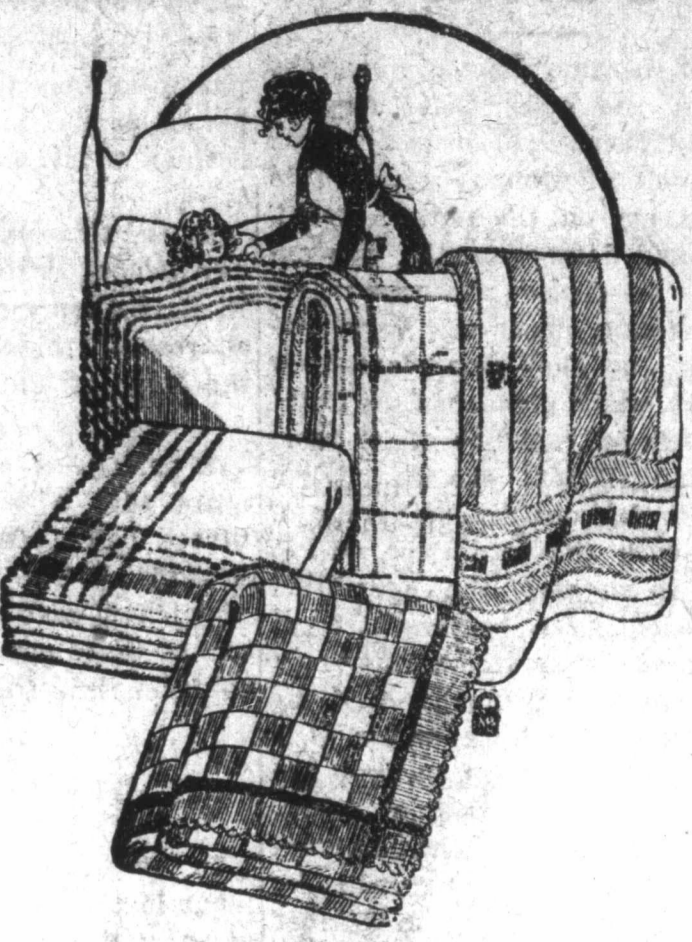
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THE ROUND TABLE THE WAR AND ENGLISH LIFE.

A Quarterly Review of the Politics of the British Empire—Republished Under the Above Heading

(Continued from page 4)
working conditions which it is desired to introduce as a result of this arrangement (the relaxation of trade customs and practices) and opportunity of local consultation with men or their representatives shall be given if desired."
The clause was certainly an important one: and the majority of the difficulties referred to by Mr. Lloyd George in his speech appear to have been due to misunderstanding, which could have been removed by frank consultation. But it would seem nevertheless that the Union is in error in contending that it is legitimate for workmen to refuse to consent to the relaxation of trade customs where notice and opportunity for consultation have not been given, for the Treasury Agreement in which the clause occurs (printed in full in the June issue of The Round Table, pp. 575-7) is no longer authoritative, having been superseded (at any rate as regards controlled establishments) by the Munitions Act. In the Act the clause referred to reappears in Schedule 2, but in an altered form:

"Due notice shall be given to the workmen concerned whenever practicable of any changes of working conditions which it is desired to introduce as the result of the establishment becoming a controlled establishment, and opportunity for local consultation with workmen or their representatives shall be given if desired."
This unfortunate change in wording, which appears to have escaped the Union executive's notice, cuts down the right of consultation to very narrow limits, at any rate in the case of the controlled establishments, which now include 1,679 firms employing well over a million workpeople.) Mr. Lloyd George ignored for the moment the vast amount of devoted work that has already been put out by British labour, often under the most trying conditions. Long hours, Sunday labour, bad and insufficient housing, often necessitating long journeys before and after working hours, lack of proper arrangements for meal and resttimes—in short—all the problems which physiologists sum up under the word fatigue, have been features of the work at many munition centres, and these conditions have not only tended to reduce but in too many cases permanently to impair the efficiency of the workers. In spite of the Insurance Act, poor people know far too little about the problems of personal health, although their health is, in most cases, literally their only "working capital;" they too seldom

spare the time or the thought to take themselves in hand before the trouble becomes serious. Anyone who reflects over this, and knows the attraction exercised by extra work, at overtime rates, will realize the large amount of avoidable sickness, among men, women and young workers, which the

pressure of munitions work must have caused. Figures on this subject are not yet available, but enquiry shows that this surmise is only too well-founded, especially as regards the employment of women on night-shifts. ("This has, of course, hitherto been prohibited, but, like many other Factory Regulations, it has in recent months been relaxed by Administrative Order.") Thanks to the activity of the Munitions Department and of private employers and voluntary associations, work-greatly improved, with a corresponding rise in the spirit and morale of the workers. It still remains true that there is slackness here and obstinacy there, bad time-keeping, demarcation troubles, and the other continual small cases of friction which ought, under the Munitions Act, if Acts of Parliament could change men's motives, to have passed into limbo. These things we have always with us in our existing industrial system, based as it is rather upon self-interest and sectional advantage than upon social service. No law or tribunal can provide a specific remedy against them. For these the best remedy is, after all, example; and if all who are conscious of their country's need would carry with them, into office and workshop, the willing and good-tempered discipline which the men in the trenches have taught us to regard as characteristically English, a new and infectious spirit would spring up in our commercial and industrial life, full of promise for the difficult future.

But the real answer of the Trade Unionist, when he is taxed with not keeping his side of the bargain, is that the State has not been scrupulous about keeping the other, and it is here that the Minister of Munitions laid himself most open to attack. The State side of the bargain was threefold—firstly, the restriction of the profits of employers, so that, to quote the Minister's words, "the suspension should not work out to the enrichment of individual capitalists but entirely to the advantage of the State"; secondly, the restoration of Trade Union regulations after the war; thirdly, the State control of wages and conditions in the trades in question. "We have compulsory service for the employer," declared the Minister. "We can annex his works, we can examine his accounts, we can annex his profits, we can decide what wages he is to pay, the hours of labour, and what the conditions should be." "You have practically taken over the whole of the engineering works of this country and controlled them by the State. I have seen resolutions passed from time to time at Trades Union Congresses about nationalizing the industries of the country. We have done it. The whole of the engineering industry of the country which is doing anything for material of war—and that is practically all—is now State controlled and the profits which they make out of the war are annexed for State purposes." These are big words: State Socialism may be a good or bad way of carrying on armament work; in any case, the majority of the delegates being Socialistically inclined, the words certainly struck a responsive chord in them. But what are the facts, familiar to most of the audience, when they had time to think the speech over? The profits of the engineering industry are not annexed to the State. It would certainly be an unjust discrimination as against other industries if they were. ("This has been tacitly admitted by the Government in making their war profits tax (from which the armaments firms are excepted) apply to all profits made during the war, not simply to profits made in consequence of the war. But it is still quite clear why one particular industry should be subject to taxation under a different system and by a different department of the State. The whole question of "limitation"—in other words, taxation—of profits in the armament industry does not seem to have been thought out beforehand by the Minister of Munitions when he pledged himself to it.) The actual arrangement that is proposed is very different. The firms are allowed to retain the whole of their average rate of profit, plus one-fifth; profits over and above that amount are "annexed to the State," subject to certain exceptions. These exceptions have since been laid down in an official paper and are—no doubt unavoidably—of a very elastic character, the owner being allowed to claim allowance from the Ministry or the referee in six specified directions and in any other matter he may care to bring forward. The bargain with regard to the restoration of Trade Union customs is equally difficult to carry out. In actual fact the whole of British industry is being reorganized and in some cases revolutionized as a result of the war and the changes in the character of labour.

Numerous new machines are being introduced; machine tenders are replacing skilled craftsmen; processes are being improved and speeded-up; in a word the status quo ante is becoming ancient history—so much so that it is doubtful if the Trade Unions are even scheduling all the changes as they occur. All this is unavoidable. It is the way of the world. But steady-going Trade Unionists, watching what is taking place and anxious for the future when their labour will be at a discount instead of a premium, do not feel inclined to credit even Mr. Lloyd George with the powers claimed by King Canute to beat back the oncoming tide. The third element in the bargain—the control of wages and working conditions, is perhaps even more unsatisfactory. "We can decide what wages the employer is to pay," said the Minister. The ordinary reader would gather from this that the rate of wages throughout the munitions industry would be fixed by the State, or at least that the State would make itself responsible for a fair rate being paid. Such is, however, not the case. The Munitions Department does indeed "decide" on rates of wages, but only in this sense—that the Munitions Act, whilst not empowering the Department to fix wages, forbids any change in the rate of wages or salaries in controlled establishments without its being submitted to Whitehall. The Department has, in fact, lately expressly disclaimed its intention of enforcing a fair standard of women's wages in Government work. A series of recommendations by the official Labour Supply Committee as to women's wages and conditions was recently issued through the Department, which, in a prefatory note, stated, though in obscure language, that they were only to be binding in actual Government factories, not in the controlled establishments, which employ the overwhelming majority of the women; so that it would appear as if the Ministry had washed its hands of its own Socialistic scheme for the State management of the engineering industry. ("The recommendations on women in munition work were issued from the Ministry with the following prefatory note: 'The Minister has decided to adopt the Committee's recommendations as regards the Munition factories for which the Ministry is responsible, and also to commend them to the favourable consideration of other employers engaged on munition work.' The ordinary reader would certainly imagine that the words in black type referred to controlled establishments, and Mrs. Pankhurst, for instance, jumped to this conclusion. But this is not so. The true state of affairs was made clear in The Manchester Guardian, which, in correcting Mrs. Pankhurst, stated: "The recommendations are not obligatory in controlled private establishments. They will be carried out in all Government-owned munition works like Woolwich and the new shell factories, and it is hoped and expected that they will be adopted by private firms." Thus the "State-controlled factories" of the Congress have now become "private firms," for which the Ministry of Munitions is not responsible. It should be added that the prefatory note to the recommendations would actually seem to be a retrograde step, since it runs counter to the spirit of the Fair Wages clause, the observance of which has hitherto been an accepted principle in Government contracts.

It seems desirable to go into these details at some length because they concern matters which are in the minds of thousands of common people with whom many of the newspaper readers who drew their conclusions from the famous Trade Union Congress speech have no opportunity of establishing contract. If the question at issue seem paltry and the differences trivial in view of the world situation, the principle underlying them is not. Workpeople may be foolish, shortsighted, and unimaginative, but they have a high standard of truth and candour any time they are angry when they find that they have been misled. The difficult problems to which Labour, Capital and the State are parties can only be solved on a basis of mutual understanding and mutual confidence; and action on any side which tends to undermine confidence and to create suspicion and bitterness strikes at the foundations of national unity. Mr. Lloyd George, with his extraordinary combination of natural gifts, his eloquence, his sympathetic imagination, his organized ability and "drive," his intense and unfeigned love for freedom and hatred of oppression, is one of the country's greatest assets in this hour of

Calgary Soldiers Tear Things Up

Attempted to Rescue Fellow Military Men From Police Station and Caused Trouble

CALGARY, Alb., Oct. 16.—A crowd of soldiers made a raid upon the mounted police barracks here to-night, with the announced intention of rescuing 5 men, members of a local battalion, who had been fined for violation of the liquor act and who, in default of payment, had been locked up. The rescue was not effected, and at the earnest representations of the officers the mob finally dispersed and went back to camp. One soldier who tried to force his way into the guard room, was shot through the right shoulder by a mounted policeman, who was on guard there. He will recover. Another mounted policeman, who was believed to have fired the shot, was chased through the streets and was in imminent danger of being severely used had not an officer of the R.N.W.M.P. and a soldier managed to get a hearing and showed that he was not the man. There were only a few mounted policemen at the barracks, and a section of the mob smashed all the windows and getting inside, threw a quantity of furniture, clothing and equipment into the street outside and burned it.

need. But there is a real danger that the effect of this wonderful endowment should be marred, and the country deprived of its full benefit, by the absence of qualities, elementary in themselves but indispensable for public life, without which indeed no man can long retain the confidence of the English people—painstaking attention to detail and the exactitude which only comes from unsparing and detailed study of the matter in hand. Imagination is the spring of oratory and perhaps the greatest single gift in the make-up of a statesman; but it can also be his greatest danger unless it is ballasted by that utter sincerity which is all the more persuasive because it discards the arts of persuasion and, like all great artistic effort, aims at expressing the truth and nothing else.

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20c. per lb. Small Tins 5 cts.
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Wet Streets Again!
Why should they trouble you?
Invest to-day in a pair of Stylish, Well-fitting
"BEAR BRAND" RUBBER SHOES (Climax Blizzard)
and your comfort is assured.
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New Martin Building, St. John's
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OUR THEATRES

THE NICKEL.

Edith Storey and Antonio Moreno, two well known artists, are in the principal roles of "The Dust of Egypt" which is the feature film at the Nickel theatre to-day and to-morrow. It is a blue ribbon story...

THE CRESCENT.

Lloyd V. Hamilton, the funniest man in the movies and Bud Duncan are featured in "Millionaires by mistake" at the Crescent Picture Palace to-day. George Houth and Helen Wolcott are presented in "The Scarlet Chastity" a wonderful Lubin feature...

The S.S. Banan sailed yesterday morning for Halifax with a part cargo of fish and oil.

WANTED—A Young Man as Assistant in a nearby northern outport business. Must have had experience, also some knowledge of Bookkeeping required.

SCHOONER FOR SALE—Schr. "Diantus," 43 tons; Spars and Sails in good condition. Selling for Three Hundred Dollars.

LOST—Yesterday between Knowing's wharf and Water Street, Purse containing \$30.00, the property of a fisherman.

WANTED—A Smart Boy to learn the Tailoring business. Apply T. J. ALYWARD, Water Street.

DECIDED BARGAINS WOOL UNDERCLOTHING For Boys from 12 to 16 years, \$1.20 per Suit or 60c. per Garment. We claim to have the best value in the city from \$3.00 to \$5.50. Nicholle, Inkpen & Chafe Limited, 315 WATER STREET 315. Special attention given to Mail Orders. Agents for Ungars Laundry & Dye Works.

A Letter from Mr. W. H. Jackman

(To the Editor)

Dear Sir,—I have read the "denials" of Capt. Carby and Dr. Rendell to the verbatim report I gave in your Thursday's issue of certain remarks made by both at the Casino Theatre on Wednesday evening regarding Major Robinson; and in reply unequivocally state that I have nothing to retract.

I would say that when I penned my letter I had "no axe to grind" but was impelled by the commonest motives of humanity on behalf of our boys who were in the July 1st. drive, to ask for an explanation of the statements in question; and it found to be true, an investigation by the authorities of the facts. I would not let such a remark about any soldier of the Empire, black or white,—much less our heroes—go unchallenged; and much less would I agree to "hush" the matter if pressure were brought to bear on me.

I must charge Dr. Rendell with being guilty of trying to draw the proverbial red herring across the trail when he made reference to his son, Par be it from me to attempt to discredit his or any other of the brave sons who are fighting our battles for us to-day. I in turn, however, will plead guilty to endeavouring to make their lot as happy as it is possible for us here to do; and I shall, not only now, but always, strongly resent any slighting inference to their worthiness.

Dr. Rendell has enumerated his "denial" into four sections. I have only to say that I did not intend to imply that he addressed his remarks particularly to either Hon. Mr. Bennett, Capt. Carby, or Mr. Walsh.

W. H. JACKMAN, St. John's, Oct. 21st., 1916.

The Truth About Our Caribou

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Sir,—The writer in The Evening Telegram who signs himself "Newfoundlander" and to whose letter I made reference in your issue of Saturday betrays unmistakably that he is a "Tenderfoot" and knows nothing of what is going on outside his own tepee in St. John's when he says he has full confidence in the personnel of the Game Board, and blames pot hunters for the decimation of the caribou herds as if they alone were responsible.

Will "Newfoundlander" explain over his own signature just what he means by "Pot Hunters" for I read into his remarks a tone of contempt for the man who hunts for utility sake as distinguished from the "gentleman" who hunts just for pleasure.

Now if it comes to a question of rights as to who may hunt or who may not of course it is acknowledged that all men have equal rights, but behind this lies the equally obvious fact that he who hunts to supply his family with meat has a stronger claim.

I do not wish to be severe with "Newfoundlander" for I approve of his sentiment respecting the preservation of the deer as far as that goes, for it has been my consistent effort for twenty-two years to impress upon the public some idea of conservation of the wild life of the country.

Everyone is bold to-day in his expression of opinion regarding the extinction which threatens our noble caribou when the extinction is staring us in the face, but how many of the brave and wise ones spoke years ago when I stood alone in the breach. Everybody may see to-day the result of our carelessness, and the cry goes up, "deer are scarce, it is time to do something."

I have no desire to parade my power of seeing things clearly, but let me say it is infinitely more to the point to speak in warning of impending danger than to wait till the grasp of doom is upon us or we are prostrate under disaster that a little forethought might have avoided. When "Newfoundlander" puts the onus upon "pot hunters" he is aware of how many thousands of deer are or have been slaughtered for fox bait? Is he aware that the wild orgie (I can call it nothing else) of fox catching set afoot by the very Game Board whom he extols is responsible for the killing of more deer than ever "pot hunters" bagged?

Speaking of the Reserve, has "Newfoundlander" ever seen the windfalls of that bunch of woods festooned with mouldering skeletons of the poor victims of the gentleman's (?) gun? I am not aware of any salmon being sold to "fools" in St. John's that are unfit for human food. It is up to the Board of Health to get hold of "Newfoundlander" and make him tell just what he knows about this. What would make them unfit for food, surely not that they were caught on the "spawning grounds"? There is something in this for the Game Board to investigate.

I am not aware of any salmon being sold in St. John's so late in the season as to permit the idea that they have been taken from the spawning ground. Salmon do not as a rule go to the "spawning ground" till October and do not spawn till November. It is permissible to catch salmon till the middle of September. If the fish are displayed for sale in St. John's after that date it is plain they must have been taken in nets in the sea, for he would be a "fool" indeed who could not tell the difference between a fish caught in the sea in October and one taken from the upper reaches of a river.

Nobody would attempt to sell except through the connivance of the buyer any salmon taken from the spawning ground, and he is a rare species of "fool" indeed who would go to such measures to get

Collections for Relief Societies

(To the Editor)

Sir,—I beg to enclose herewith copies of Code Telegram No. 554, of date 17th. instant, received by His Excellency the Governor from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with respect to the subject of subscriptions, collections or remittances for Relief Societies operating in enemy occupied territory.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant J. R. BENNETT, Colonial Secretary.

No. 554. Code Telegram from Secretary of State.

Desirable that it should be laid down that general subscriptions, collections, or remittances for Relief Societies operating in enemy occupied territory should not be encouraged. This does not apply to National Committee Relief Belgium, which stands on special footing, but does apply to Polish relief and there excludes committees. Subscriptions, made with a view to Polish relief is only for relief of Poles in Russia and should be sent through H. M. Ambassador St. Petersburg or if preferred through Polish War Victims Relief Committee in London. Remittances to individuals in enemy occupied territory not being of enemy nationality may be allowed, provided conditions laid down in dispatch sent by mail are fulfilled briefly. Firstly, same individual not to receive from all sources more than £25 per month. Secondly, all remittances to be made through Bank in United Kingdom which can be supervised by H. M. Government.

Laid to Rest

The funeral of the late Wm. Cook, butcher, took place at 2.30 p.m. Saturday from his late residence, Water Street. A concourse of citizens of all denominations attended, testifying to the esteem and respect held for the deceased.

Condition of Our Wounded

Copy of Cablegram. London, October 21, 1916.

Association visiting committee reports condition of following men in hospital, October List 2:— Prepressing favourably:— 1516 Small; 1774 Hanham; 2118 O'Reilly; 881 Sinclair; 2045 Patten; 1882 Lee. Improving:— 1970 Hilliard; 2068 Sexton; 1756 Rideout; 1785 Bennett; 2055 Squires. Slight Improvement:— 1745 Chislett. Further lists will follow REEVES.

Mr. James Murphy, the well known stoker who had been in Hospital for four weeks past, ill of slow fever, came out last week and is recovering, though slowly, his former health. A fish that is worthless as an article to grace the table of an epicure. Such considerations as these make but empty vapor of "Newfoundlander's" talk. He is in vulgar parlance "talking through his hat." "Calcar" writing in The Mail and Advocate a few weeks ago suggested the appointment of a commission to enquire into the whole question of game preservation and I should like to add my commendation to this sensible suggestion. It is high time that some action be taken, and that responsibility be taken out of the hands of men who have proven themselves incompetent to deal with the matter. ARTHUR ENGLISH. St. John's, Oct. 23, '16.

Death of Captain O'Brien

(To the Editor)

When it became known yesterday throughout the city that Captain Augustus O'Brien had passed away as the result of wounds received in recent fighting on the French front, universal and deep sympathy was expressed by all classes amongst whom the brave young officer was very popular. Gus, as he was familiarly known here, was a pioneer of the Catholic Cadet Corps and one of its most popular and efficient officers. When the war broke out he was one of the first, with the late Capt. A. Shimners, to suggest the formation and equipment of a contingent from Newfoundland for service at the front and 1st here with Company A of the first Battalion, which sailed on October 4th., 1914. He went through the campaign in Gallipoli without injury and came to Halifax, whence he took "D" Company over to England. He was dangerously ill in France on October 12th. and succumbed to his injuries on Saturday last. The deceased officer was a son of Mr. T. A. O'Brien of Lime Street and was for several years manager of Mr. Garret Dyne's bookstore in this city. In the general sympathy expressed for his parents and friends the Mail and Advocate joins.

STORES VERY BUSY

Owing to the fact that under present conditions women folk will not go out after dark, Saturday forenoon and afternoon saw the city stores busier than for several years past. Up to 5 p.m. there was a great rush on and in many places the help employed was hardly equal to the emergency. At night also there was a rush but nothing comparable to the business done in the afternoon.

FRISKY FROM FIREWATER

Saturday afternoon a little Esquimaux, in the uniform of a Naval Reservist, indulged rather freely and became so gay on Water Street that citizens and even his own mess mates objected to his antics. When he showed hostile intentions to Officers Tobin and Stamp, these stalwarts quickly gathered the little chap into the police station, whence a squad conducted him on board the "Briton" yesterday morning.

LOCAL ITEMS

The express which left here at 12.30 p.m. yesterday took out a large number of people, many of whom went to Sydney to seek employment.

At the Gower Street Methodist Sunday School yesterday afternoon Hon. R. K. Bishop gave a very interesting address on the Great Admiral Nelson, the Hero of Trafalgar.

A rumour went about the city last night that a resident of Pleasant Street had committed suicide by drowning. The police knew nothing of such a case and it evidently was one of those canards which are started from time to time.

VESPERS AT 3 P.M.

In accordance with the announcement in the press Vespers were sung at the Cathedral yesterday at 3 p.m. the vast edifice being filled with worshippers. Rev. Dr. Carter and Father Conway officiated, the latter reciting the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin and the former imparting Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Rt. Rev. Monsignor McDermott, V.C., occupied the pulpit and preached a very eloquent sermon. The Monsignor prefaced his sermon with a reference to local conditions and referred to the danger of children being allowed on the streets after nightfall. There was physical as well as moral risk and parents should see to it that their offsprings be kept in doors once darkness sets in.

A DESERVED PROMOTION

The many friends of Major Henry Shea in St. John's will learn with extreme pleasure that yesterday his father, the venerable Dr. Henry Shea, had news that his son had been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Lieut.-Colonel Shea is a son of Newfoundland, of whom all must be proud. He served in the Boer war with distinction, and when the present great struggle began volunteered for active service and proceeded to France where he has given valuable service with the Royal Army Medical Corps. To his aged and esteemed father, sister and other relatives we tender our congratulations.

Drowned at Sea

Baine, Johnston & Co. recently received a letter from Capt. Enon, of the barquin Atilia, saying that a seaman on the ship named Arthur Pavy was drowned on the vessel's voyage to Bahia. The accident occurred on August 2nd and the man while attending to the lights fell overboard. The weather was very stormy and dark, and the unfortunate man could not be rescued under the circumstances. Pavy was a native of Grenada, B.W.I., and was 36 years of age.

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